

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-14 INRE-00 COA-02 DLOS-07 SSO-00

NSCE-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00

EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20

STR-08 TRSE-00 IO-14 DRC-01 /191 W
----- 057810

O P 281000Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4303

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

USNATO PRIORITY 3064

USUN PRIORITY 1538

EUCOM PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY/ECJ-2 PRIORITY

CINCUSAREUR PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ADANA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY

AMCONSUL IZMIR PRIORITY

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4074

EUCOM FOR POLAD AND J-2

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PBOR TU GR

SUBJ: GOT ANNOUNCES OIL EXPLORATION IN AEGEAN HAS BEGUN

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1. MINISTER OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES CAHIT KAYRA

ON MAY 27 STATED IN PARLIAMENT, ACCORDING TO PRESS, THAT
"A SHIP BELONGING TO TPAO (TURKISH PETROLEUM COMPANY) HAS
ALREADY STARTED OIL EXPLORATION IN THE AEGEAN SEA". EMBASSY
LEARNED ON MAY 24 FROM A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE THAT TURKS
MIGHT SEND SOME TYPE OF VESSEL INTO AEGEAN ON MAY 26 OR 27
TO TAKE SOUNDINGS.

2. COMMENT: WE ARE UNDER STRONG IMPRESSION THAT TPAO
DOES NOT OWN SHIP SUITABLE FOR SEISMIC WORK. WE HAVE NO
INFO THAT A FOREIGN FIRM YET OPERATING, AND TURKISH NAVY SOURCE
SAYS NO NAVAL VESSEL INVOLVED. WE ARE SEEKING ADDITIONAL
INFO.

3. IT IS PUZZLING THAT, WITH TENSIONS OVER AEGEAN EASING AS
RESULT OF GREEK NOTE ON SETTLEMENT OF BOUNDARY (ATHENS 3144,
ANKARA 4055), TURKS SEEM TO BE PROCEEDING WITH POSSIBLY PROVOCATIVE
ACT OF EXPLORING FOR OIL IN DISPUTED AREA. HOWEVER, SUCH A
POSTURE WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THEIR POSITION
PRIOR TO CARACAS LOS CONFERENCE.
SPAIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Reason:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005